

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MCCLOSKEY, ROBERT J)

SUBJECT: H DAILY ACTIVITIES REPORT, 1/23/76

FOR AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY

1. ANGOLA. MAHON'S CHIEF OF STAFF TOLD ME THIS AFTERNOON THAT, IN THE FACE OF THE OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE THAT THE TUNNEY AMENDMENT WILL PASS, THEY HAVE DECIDED NOT TO ENTERTAIN ANY LONGER THE IDEA OF INVITING YOU OR BILL SCHAUFLE TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON MONDAY. MAHON'S DECISION HE SAID WAS TAKEN IN A DESIRE TO AVOID ANY EMBARRASSMENT TO YOU, SINCE THE ISSUE IS ALREADY FORECLOSED, IN HIS JUDGMENT. AN INFORMAL DEMOCRATIC WHIP CHECK REVEALED AN 8-1 RATIO AGAINST US AMONG THE DEMOCRATS. YOU WILL RECALL THAT A REPUBLICAN WHIP CHECK YESTERDAY REVEALED APPROXIMATELY 80 VOTES IN OUR FAVOR.

AS IT NOW STANDS, SCHAUFLE WILL APPEAR BEFORE THE HIRC MONDAY AFTERNOON, AND THE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE IN THE HOUSE TUESDAY MORNING.

DEMOCRATIC SOURCES THIS AFTERNOON DESCRIBED THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO FOR THE TUESDAY MORNING VOTE ON THE  
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TUNNEY AMENDMENT:

GIAIMO WILL OFFER THE MOTION TO RECEDE AND CONCUR IN THE TUNNEY-AMENDED CONFERENCE REPORT FROM THE SENATE. MAHON WILL VOTE AGAINST THIS BUT WILL MAKE NO STATEMENT IN OUR SUPPORT. MEANWHILE, A GIAIMO "DEAR COLLEAGUE" LETTER WILL HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED ON BEHALF OF THE DEMOCRATIC STUDY GROUP IN WHICH HE WILL EMPHASIZE THAT THE SUPPORT FOR THE TUNNEY AMENDMENT REFLECTS OPPOSITION TO COVERT EXPENDITURES IN ANGOLA. GIAIMO HAS TOLD COLLEAGUES THAT HE HAS AN OPEN MIND REGARDING OVERT SUPPORT FUNDS FOR ANGOLA. OTHER DEMOCRATIC PARTY SOURCES TELL US THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT, IN FACT, FOR A SEPARATE LEGISLATIVE EFFORT TO PROVIDE SOME OVERT ASSISTANCE FOR ANGOLA, PARTICULARLY, THEY SAY, IF IT WERE SOUGHT BY MEANS OF SEPARATE LEGISLATION. ONE SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE WIDER THE MARGIN OF VICTORY FOR THE TUNNEY AMENDMENT THE MORE APPETITE THERE WILL BE IN THE HOUSE TO SUPPORT AN OVERT PROGRAM AND THEREBY REDUCE THEIR VULNERABILITY TO CHARGES OF HAVING PULLED THE RUG OUT FROM UNDER THE PRESIDENT.

ONE FALL-OUT OF THE ANGOLAN CRISIS WHICH WILL BE OF LONG-RANGE VALUE IS INCREASED CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN AFRICA AS A CONTINENT. TODAY, FOR EXAMPLE, THE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE DIRECTOR PHONED ME AND REQUESTED A PANEL OF OFFICE DIRECTOR-LEVEL PEOPLE TO MEET WITH THE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE STAFF MEMBERS NEXT THURSDAY TO DISCUSS U.S. POLICY TOWARD AFRICA, EXCLUDING ANGOLA. WE WILL PROVIDE A THREE-MAN PANEL TO MEET WITH AN EXPECTED 50 STAFFERS.

2. SPANISH BASES. IN THE PROCESS OF INFORMING SELECTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OF THE DECISION TO SUBMIT THE SPANISH BASE AGREEMENT AS A TREATY, WE PICKED UP REPORTS ON A LUNCHEON YESTERDAY HOSTED BY THE FUND FOR NEW CHOICES WHERE THE SPANISH TREATY WAS THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION. THE GROUP, WHICH INCLUDED SOME MEMBERS, WAS REPORTEDLY INTRIGUED BY THE COMMENTS OF A COL KING WHO INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS THE FORMER MADRID JUSMAAG PRESS OFFICER AND WHO SPENT 15 MINUTES DEPRECATING THE MILITARY CONFIDENTIAL

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IMPORTANCE OF OUR BASES IN SPAIN. MEMBERS AND STAFFERS PRESENT SEEMED TO EMERGE SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL ABOUT KING'S FLAMBOYANT DENUNCIATIONS. BUT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN EXPRESSED AS TO WHETHER WE SHOULD EMBRACE THE NEW SPANISH REGIME BEFORE IT HAS GOTTEN ITS HOUSE IN ORDER.

THE FOREGOING DOES NOT DETRACT FROM THE POSITIVE REACTION OF THOSE DOZEN MEMBERS WE CONTACTED ON THE

DECISION TO SUBMIT THE AGREEMENT AS A TREATY. SENATOR

EAGLETON IS, IN FACT, RELEASING A PRESS STATEMENT TODAY WHICH STRONGLY PRAISES THE PRESIDENT FOR MAKING THIS DECISION AND CHARACTERIZES IT AS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION "TO HEALING THE BREACH BETWEEN THE CONGRESS AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH."

3. INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT HEARINGS. RIBICOFF'S GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MET TODAY TO HEAR COLBY AND BUNDY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. BOTH ASSERTED THE NEED FOR NEW AND EFFECTIVE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT ARRANGEMENTS TO RESTORE PUBLIC

CONFIDENCE IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND PREVENT LEAKS OF SECRET INFORMATION. BOTH FAVORED CLOSELY FOCUSED CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY BY FORMATION OF A SINGLE JOINT COMMITTEE AND ADVOCATED PARALLEL TIGHTENING OF CONTROLS AND DISCIPLINE IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

PERCY PROPOSED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES IN BOTH HOUSES RATHER THAN A JOINT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. RIBICOFF AND PERCY AGREED WITH BUNDY THAT IT IS DESIRABLE TO ESTABLISH SOME NEW OVERSIGHT STRUCTURE WITHOUT DELAY, I.E., THIS YEAR.

4. SECURITY ASSISTANCE. GOLDBERG AND MICHEL (L) DISCUSSED WITH THE SFRC STAFF FURTHER CONCESSION ON POINTS IN

DISPUTE IN THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE BILL. MAW'S MEETING WITH HUMPHREY WAS POSTPONED UNTIL MONDAY PM. AS YOU KNOW, HUMPHREY IS ALSO EAGER TO MEET WITH YOU EARLY NEXT WEEK TO GET A FINAL READING OF YOUR VIEWS BEFORE REPORTING  
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OUT THE COMMITTEE BILL. SISCO

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